

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for sending interactive textual and graphical data from a content provider to a user's set-top box through a satellite broadcast system, said method comprising:

receiving said textual data and said graphical data from said content provider in a server that is located in an uplink center;

retrieving said textual and said graphical data from said server into an application streamer coupled to said server;

converting said textual data into ~~OpenTV data~~ and converting said graphical data into interactive MPEG data in said application streamer, the interactive data compatible with the set-top box;

using said application streamer to create a file directory structure based on a priority for each file in the file directory structure said textual data, the priority for each file determined using information about each file present in said textual data and said file directory structure comprising at least one OpenTV data file and at least one graphical data file formatted by the application streamer to be compatible with the set-top box;

using said application streamer to create a node tree on a broadcast streamer by mirroring said file directory structure such that each file in said file directory structure becomes a node with a corresponding priority in said node tree on said broadcast streamer;

allocating bandwidth and transmission frequency to each node of said node tree based on [[a]] the corresponding priority of each said node; and

using said broadcast streamer to multiplex said nodes of said node tree with a regular broadcast stream resulting in an interactive data stream.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 1, said method further comprising:

using set-top box application software to read said interactive data stream and display said interactive data stream on a user's display device; and  
monitoring said application streamer with a computer.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of retrieving said textual data and said graphical data from said server further comprises querying said server for new data.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said step of converting said textual data ~~into said OpenTV data and converting~~ said graphical data into said ~~MPEG data~~ interactive data compatible with the set-top box further comprises creating system alerts.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 4 wherein said step of creating system alerts comprises creating alerts upon detection of errors within said ~~satellite~~ broadcast system using SNMP traps, event logging, and visual queues in a graphical user interface.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 2 wherein said step of monitoring said application streamer by a computer further comprises monitoring said application streamer, configuring said application streamer, making any necessary changes to said application streamer.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 6 wherein said step of monitoring said application streamer further comprises monitoring said application streamer using a DCOM user interface over a network connection.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein said step of monitoring said application streamer further comprises monitoring the connection to said broadcast streamer, monitoring the connection to said server, and monitoring the status of said interactive data stream on said broadcast streamer.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for sending interactive textual and graphical data from a content provider to a user's set-top box through a satellite broadcast system, said system comprising:

- a server, located in an uplink center, that receives said textual data and said graphical data from said content provider;
- an application streamer, that is coupled to said server, that retrieves said textual data and said graphical data from said server, and that converts said textual data into ~~OpenTV~~ data and converts said graphical data into MPEG interactive data compatible with the set-top box;
- a file directory structure that is created by said application streamer based on a priority for each file in the file directory structure said textual data, the priority for each file determined using information about each file present in said textual data and said file directory structure comprising at least ~~OpenTV~~ one data file and at least one graphical data file formatted by the application streamer to be compatible with the set-top box;
- a node tree that is created by said application streamer on a broadcast streamer by mirroring said file directory structure such that each file in said file directory structure becomes a node with a corresponding priority in said node tree on said broadcast streamer;
- bandwidth allocation software that calculates a bandwidth allocation for each node of said node tree based on [[a]] the corresponding priority of each said node; and
- a multiplexer located on said broadcast streamer that multiplexes said nodes of said node tree with a regular broadcast stream resulting in an interactive data stream.

10. (Currently Amended) The system as set forth in claim 9, said system further comprising:

- a set-top box that receives said interactive data stream;
- a software application located on said set-top box that reads said interactive data stream and displays said interactive data stream on a user's display device; and
- a computer that monitors said application streamer.

11. (Previously Presented) The system as set forth in claim 9 wherein said application streamer queries said server for new data.

12. (Previously Presented) The system as set forth in claim 9 wherein said application streamer creates system alerts.

13. (Previously Presented) The system as set forth in claim 12 wherein said system alerts comprise one of SNMP traps, event logging, and visual queues in a graphical user interface.

14. (Previously Presented) The system as set forth in claim 10 wherein said computer that monitors said application streamer allows for monitoring said application streamer, configuring said application streamer, and making any necessary changes to said application streamer.

15. (Previously Presented) The system as set forth in claim 10 wherein said computer that monitors said application streamer monitors said application streamer using a DCOM user interface over a network connection.

16. (Previously Presented) The system as set forth in claim 15 wherein said computer that monitors said application streamer further monitors said broadcast streamer, the connection to said server, and the status of said interactive data stream on said broadcast stream.

17. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, said method further comprising sending said interactive data stream to said user's set-top box.